

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A scrubbing soap bar, comprising:  
a scrubbing element having a filamentous network with internal void regions; and  
a soap material that substantially surrounds the scrubbing element and at least partially fills the void regions.
2. (Original) The scrubbing soap bar of claim 1, wherein the scrubbing element is further comprised of a non-woven network of polymer fibers.
3. (Original) The scrubbing soap bar of claim 1, wherein the scrubbing element is further comprised of a non-woven network of organic fibers.
4. (Original) The scrubbing soap bar of claim 1, wherein the scrubbing element is further comprised of a non-woven network of metallic fibers.
5. (Original) The scrubbing soap bar of claim 2, wherein the non-woven network of polymer fibers includes a non-woven network of fibers comprised of nylon.
6. (Original) The scrubbing soap bar of claim 4, wherein the non-woven network of metallic fibers includes a non-woven network of fibers comprised of a ferrous material.
7. (Original) The scrubbing soap bar of claim 4, wherein the non-woven network of metallic fibers includes a non-woven network of fibers comprised of a non-ferrous material.

8. (Original) The scrubbing soap bar of claim 1, wherein the scrubbing element further comprises a natural or a synthetic sponge material.

9. (Original) The scrubbing soap bar of claim 1, wherein the soap bar is further comprised of a material formed by the saponification of an organic fat with an alkali.

10. (Original) The scrubbing soap bar of claim 1, wherein the soap material is further comprised of a synthetic detergent material.

11. (Original) A method of manufacturing a soap bar having a scrubbing element, comprising:

forming a scrubbing element from a non-woven and porous material; and  
infiltrating the non-woven and porous material with a soap material to form the soap bar.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein forming a scrubbing element further comprises forming the scrubbing element from a non-woven network of polymer fibers.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein forming a scrubbing element further comprises forming the scrubbing element from a non-woven network of organic fibers.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein forming a scrubbing element further comprises forming the scrubbing element from a non-woven network of metallic fibers.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising positioning the scrubbing element in a mold.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein infiltrating the non-woven and porous material scrubbing element further comprises enclosing the scrubbing element in a hermetically sealed mold and at least partially evacuating the mold before infiltrating the soap material into the mold.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein infiltrating the non-woven and porous material with a soap material further comprises infiltrating a material formed by the saponification of an organic fat with an alkali.

18. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein infiltrating the non-woven and porous material with a soap material further comprises infiltrating a synthetic detergent material.

19. (Original) A method of manufacturing a soap bar having a scrubbing element, comprising:

positioning a scrubbing element in a mold configured to receive the scrubbing element;

adding a soap material to the mold to form a solid bar that encapsulates the scrubbing element; and

removing the solid bar from the mold.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein positioning a scrubbing element in a mold further comprises positioning a non-woven network of polymer fibers into the mold.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein positioning a scrubbing element in a mold further comprises positioning a non-woven network of organic fibers into the mold.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein positioning a scrubbing element in a mold further comprises positioning a non-woven network of metallic fibers into the mold.

23. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising permeating the scrubbing element with the soap material.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein permeating the scrubbing element with the soap material further comprises enclosing the scrubbing element in a hermetically sealed mold and at least partially evacuating the mold before adding the soap material to the mold.

25. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein adding a soap material to the mold further comprises adding a soap material to the mold in a semi-liquid state; and curing the semi-liquid material to form the solid bar.

26. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein adding a soap material to the mold further comprises adding a material formed by the saponification of an organic fat with an alkali.

27. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein adding a soap material to the mold further comprises adding a synthetic detergent material to the mold.